CHAPTER 389

## **HUMAN SERVICES - SOCIAL SERVICES**

HOUSE BILL 18-1363

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) Singer and Landgraf, Arndt, Becker K., Buckner, Coleman, Exum, Ginal, Gray, Hamner, Hooton, Kraft-Tharp, Lee, Lontine, Melton, Pettersen, Reyher, Valdez, Young; also SENATOR(S) Crowder, Kefalas, Moreno, Priola, Smallwood, Todd.

## AN ACT

CONCERNING LEGISLATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CHILD SUPPORT COMMISSION, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

**SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend** 14-10-107.5 as follows:

- **14-10-107.5.** Entry of appearance and notice of withdrawal by delegate child support enforcement unit. (1) The attorney for the county department of social services DELEGATE CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT UNIT may file an entry of appearance on behalf of the COUNTY department OF HUMAN OR SOCIAL SERVICES in any proceeding for dissolution of marriage or legal separation under this article ARTICLE 10 for purposes of establishing, modifying, and enforcing child support and medical support if any party is receiving CHILD support enforcement services pursuant to section 26-13-106 C.R.S., and for purposes of establishing and enforcing reimbursement of payments for temporary assistance to needy families.
- (2) The county department of social services DELEGATE CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT UNIT, upon the filing of the entry of appearance described in subsection (1) of this section or upon the filing of a legal pleading to establish, modify, or enforce the support obligation, shall be is from that date forward, without leave or order of court, a third-party intervenor in the action for the purposes outlined in subsection (1) of this section without the necessity of filing a motion to intervene.
- (3) The delegate child support enforcement unit may withdraw as a party from a case when the case is closed without leave of the court by filing a notice pursuant to the Colorado rules of civil procedure. Upon

Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material added to existing statutes; dashes through words indicate deletions from existing statutes and such material not part of act.

THE FILING OF SUCH NOTICE, THE DELEGATE CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT UNIT IS NO LONGER CONSIDERED A PARTY TO THE ACTION WITHOUT THE NECESSITY OF FILING A MOTION TO DISMISS PARTY.

## **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend** 19-4-112 as follows:

- **19-4-112. Genetic or other tests administrative subpoena to compel genetic testing.** (1) Upon motion of the court or any of the interested parties, genetic tests or other tests of inherited characteristics shall be ordered and the results received in evidence, as provided in section 13-25-126. C.R.S. Upon agreement of the mother and the presumed or alleged father or fathers, genetic tests or other tests of inherited characteristics may be administered prior to filing of an action. If the action is then filed, the test results shall MUST be admitted into evidence as provided in section 13-25-126. C.R.S.
- (2) (a) A DELEGATE CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT UNIT IS AUTHORIZED TO PRODUCE, ISSUE, AND SERVE A SUBPOENA TO COMPEL A PARTY IN A JUVENILE COURT CASE TO APPEAR, AT A SPECIFIED LOCATION AND TIME, FOR A GENETIC TEST SAMPLE THAT IS COLLECTED FOR ASSISTANCE IN PATERNITY DETERMINATION. THE SUBPOENA MUST ALLOW A LAB-CERTIFIED CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT UNIT SAMPLE COLLECTOR, AN ACCREDITED GENETIC-TESTING LABORATORY COMPANY, A HEALTH CLINIC, OR A HOSPITAL TO CONDUCT A BUCCAL SWAB OR OTHER LAB-APPROVED COLLECTION METHOD OF THE ALLEGED FATHER, MOTHER, AND CHILD WHOSE PATERNITY IS AT ISSUE. THE SAMPLE MAY THEN BE USED FOR PATERNITY TESTING PURPOSES, PROVIDED APPROPRIATE CHAIN-OF-CUSTODY DOCUMENTATION IS FOLLOWED. TEST RESULTS OBTAINED THROUGH THE SUBPOENA MAY BE ADMITTED AS EVIDENCE PURSUANT TO SECTION 13-25-126. THE SUBPOENA MAY BE SERVED BY FIRST-CLASS MAIL OR BY ELECTRONIC MEANS, IF THAT NOTICE PREFERENCE BY THE PARTY IS DOCUMENTED.
- (b) If a party fails to honor the first subpoena, the delegate child support enforcement unit may issue a second subpoena or file the appropriate motion with the court to compel compliance with a judicial genetic testing order pursuant to section 13-25-126. If the delegate child support enforcement unit issues a second subpoena and that subpoena is not honored, the delegate child support enforcement unit may file the appropriate motion with the court to compel compliance with a judicial genetic testing order pursuant to section 13-25-126. A nonappearance default may be sought against a nonappearing party only after a judicial genetic testing order is not honored.

**SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26-13-122.7, **amend** (1)(a) and (6); and **add** (9) as follows:

**26-13-122.7.** Administrative lien and attachment of insurance claim payments, awards, and settlements - reporting - rules - fund. (1) (a) The state child support enforcement agency, or its agent, may issue a notice of administrative lien and attachment to any person, insurance company, or agency to attach insurance claim payments, awards, or settlements due to an obligor who is responsible for the past-due support of a child or children on whose behalf an obligee is receiving services from the state's child support enforcement agency or a delegate child

support enforcement unit pursuant to this article ARTICLE 13. The state child support enforcement agency and insurance companies may MUST participate in the child support lien network insurance data match, or a similar program, to facilitate discovery of potential claim payments, awards, or settlements. The general assembly encourages the state child support enforcement agency and insurance companies to participate in the child support lien network insurance data match, or a similar program, for the benefit of the children of Colorado.

- (6) The state child support enforcement agency may recover from the moneys MONEY collected any fees assessed upon the state child support enforcement agency in its efforts to attach insurance claim payments, awards, and settlements. Fees COLLECTED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (6) MUST BE DEPOSITED IN THE CHILD SUPPORT INSURANCE LIEN FUND CREATED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (9) OF THIS SECTION.
- (9) There is created in the state treasury the child support insurance lien fund, referred to in this subsection (9) as the "fund". The fund consists of any money credited to it from fees collected pursuant to subsection (6) of this section, and any other money appropriated or transferred to the fund by the general assembly. Money in the fund shall be appropriated to the state department to pay costs related to participating in the child support lien network. The state treasurer shall credit all interest and income derived from the deposit and investment of money in the fund to the fund. Any money appropriated to the fund for the 2018-19 fiscal year and for each fiscal year thereafter that is unexpended and unencumbered at the end of the applicable fiscal year does not revert to the general fund and must remain in the fund.
- **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26-13.5-102, **amend** the introductory portion, (1), (3), (6), (8), (10), (11), (12), and (13); and **add** (1.1), (1.2), (1.3), (5.5), and (10.5) as follows:
- **26-13.5-102. Definitions.** As used in this <del>article</del> ARTICLE 13.5, unless the context otherwise requires:
- (1) "Administrative order" means an order that involves payment or collection of support establishes paternity, child support, or medical support obligations or modifies the monthly support obligation or medical support provisions of an administrative process action order issued by a delegate child support enforcement unit or an administrative agency of another state or comparable jurisdiction with similar authority. The administrative order may be stipulated, temporary, or by default.
- (1.1) "Administrative process action" or "APA" means an administrative action conducted to establish or modify an administrative order pursuant to this article 13.5.
- (1.2) "APA-petitioner" means the party who has applied or been mandatorily referred for child support services pursuant to article 13 of this title 26.

- (1.3) "APA-RESPONDENT" MEANS THE PARTY THAT DID NOT APPLY FOR CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES AND WAS NOT MANDATORILY REFERRED FOR CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 13 OF THIS TITLE 26.
- (3) "Child support debt" means in the case in which there is no existing order for child support, an amount ordered by the court pursuant to section 14-14-104, C.R.S., AN AMOUNT CALCULATED PURSUANT TO SECTION 14-14-104 or by a delegate child support enforcement unit pursuant to this article ARTICLE 13.5 for unreimbursed public assistance provided to a family that has received or is receiving FOSTER CARE PLACEMENT SERVICES, aid to families with dependent children, or temporary assistance to needy families. In the case in which there is an existing court or administrative order for support, "child support debt" means an amount equal to the amount of public assistance paid to the extent of the full amount of arrearages which have accrued as of the date of the court or administrative order that determines the child support debt.
- (5.5) "Currently scheduled negotiation conference" means the conference date and time scheduled in the notice of financial responsibility or the date and time scheduled in the latest notice of continuance, whichever date is later.
- (6) "Custodian" means a parent, relative, legal guardian, or other person or agency having physical eustody CARE of a child.
- (8) "Dependent child" means any person who is legally entitled to or the subject of a court order OR ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER for the provision of proper or necessary subsistence, education, medical care, or any other care necessary for his OR HER health, guidance, or well-being who is not otherwise emancipated, self-supporting, married, or a member of the armed forces of the United States.
- (10) "Monthly support obligation" means the monthly amount of current child support OR FOSTER CARE PLACEMENT COSTS that an obligor is ordered to pay by the court or by the delegate child support enforcement unit pursuant to this article ARTICLE 13.5.
- (10.5) "Notice of financial responsibility" means the notice described in sections 26-13.5-103 and 26-13.5-105 for an administrative process establishment action and in section 26-13.5-112 for an administrative process modification action.
- (11) "Obligee" means any person or agency to whom a duty of support is owed. or any person or agency having commenced a proceeding for the establishment or enforcement of an alleged duty of support.
- (12) "Obligor" means any person owing a duty of support. or against whom a proceeding for the establishment or enforcement of a duty of support is commenced.
- (13) "Receipt of notice" means either the date on which service of process of a notice of financial responsibility is actually accomplished or the date on the return receipt if service is by certified mail, both OR THE DATE THE APA-RESPONDENT SIGNS A WAIVER OF SERVICE OF PROCESS, in accordance with one of the methods of

service specified in section 26-13.5-104.

- **SECTION 5.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26-13.5-103, **amend** (1) introductory portion, (1)(a), (1)(a.5), (1)(b), (1)(b.5), (1)(f), (1)(l), (1)(o), (1)(r), (1)(s), and (1)(t); and **add** (1)(a.3) and (1)(r.5) as follows:
- **26-13.5-103. Notice of financial responsibility issued contents.** (1) The delegate child support enforcement unit shall issue a notice of financial responsibility to THE APA-RESPONDENT WHO IS THE OBLIGEE OR an obligor who owes a child support debt or who is responsible for the support of a child on whose behalf OR TO the custodian of that A child WHO is receiving support enforcement services from the delegate child support enforcement unit pursuant to article 13 of this title TITLE 26. If THE OBLIGOR HAS APPLIED FOR CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES, THE NOTICE MUST BE SERVED ON THE OBLIGEE. The notice shall MUST advise the obligor APA-RESPONDENT:
- (a) That the obligor APA-RESPONDENT is required to appear on the date and at the time and location stated in the notice for a negotiation conference, to determine the obligor's duty of support OR, IF THE NEGOTIATION CONFERENCE IS CONTINUED, THE DATE AND TIME OF THE CURRENTLY SCHEDULED NEGOTIATION CONFERENCE TO ESTABLISH A CHILD SUPPORT OBLIGATION:
- (a.3) That, if the APA-petitioner fails to appear for the currently scheduled negotiation conference, the delegate child support enforcement unit may proceed to establish an APA order or take such other action as appropriate under the law;
- (a.5) That A PARTY MAY CONTEST PATERNITY AND OBTAIN GENETIC TESTING IF PATERNITY OF THE CHILD HAS NOT ALREADY BEEN ESTABLISHED BY COURT OR ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER OR DETERMINED PURSUANT TO THE LAWS OF ANOTHER STATE AND a request for genetic tests shall WILL not prejudice the obligor A PARTY in matters concerning allocation of parental responsibilities pursuant to section 14-10-124 (1.5), C.R.S., and that, if genetic tests are not obtained prior to the legal establishment of paternity and submitted into evidence prior to the entry of the final order establishing paternity, the genetic tests may not be allowed into evidence at a later date;
- (b) That the delegate child support enforcement unit shall issue an order of default setting forth the amount of the obligor's duty of support, if the obligor CHILD SUPPORT OBLIGATIONS IF THE APA-RESPONDENT:
  - (I) Fails to appear for the negotiation conference as scheduled in the notice; and
- (II) Fails to reschedule a negotiation conference prior to the date and time stated in the notice OF THE CURRENTLY SCHEDULED NEGOTIATION CONFERENCE; and
- (III) Fails to send the delegate child support enforcement unit a written request for a court hearing prior to the time scheduled for the CURRENTLY SCHEDULED negotiation conference;
  - (b.5) That, if the notice is issued for the purpose of establishing the paternity of

and financial responsibility for a child, the delegate child support enforcement unit shall issue an order of default establishing paternity and setting forth the amount of the obligor's duty of support, if:

- (I) The obligor APA-RESPONDENT fails to appear for the initial negotiation conference as scheduled in the notice of financial responsibility and fails to reschedule a negotiation conference prior to the date and time stated in the notice of financial responsibility OR FAILS TO APPEAR FOR THE CURRENTLY SCHEDULED NEGOTIATION CONFERENCE; or
- (II) The obligor APA-RESPONDENT fails to take a genetic test or fails to appear for an appointment to take a genetic test without good cause; or
- (III) The results of the genetic test indicate a ninety-seven percent or greater probability that the alleged father is the father of the child, and the obligor APA-RESPONDENT fails to appear for the CURRENTLY SCHEDULED negotiation conference; as scheduled in the notice and fails to reschedule a negotiation conference prior to the date and time stated in the notice;
- (f) The name of the custodian of the child on whose behalf support is being sought and the name AND birth date and social security number of such child;
- (1) That the costs of collection, as defined in section 26-13.5-102 (3) SECTION 26-13.5-102 (4), may be assessed against and collected from the obligor APA-RESPONDENT;
- (o) That the obligor APA-RESPONDENT may assert the following objections in the negotiation conference and that, if such objections are not resolved, the delegate child support enforcement unit shall schedule a court hearing pursuant to section 26-13.5-105 (3):
- (I) That he is not neither the APA-petitioner nor the APA-respondent is the parent of the dependent child; however except that, if parentage has been previously determined by or pursuant to the law of another state, the obligor is APA-petitioner and APA-respondent are advised that any challenge to the determination of parentage must be resolved in the state where the determination of parentage was made;
- (II) That the dependent child has been adopted by a person other than the obligor APA-RESPONDENT:
  - (III) That the dependent child is emancipated; or
- (IV) That there is an existing court or administrative order of support as to the monthly support obligation;
- (r) That the obligor is APA-PETITIONER AND APA-RESPONDENT ARE responsible for notifying the delegate child support enforcement unit of any change of address or employment within ten days of such change;
  - (r.5) That the APA-respondent may opt out of the administrative

PROCESS ACTION AND HAVE ALL ISSUES DECIDED BY A COURT BY DELIVERING TO THE DELEGATE CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT UNIT PRIOR TO THE DATE AND TIME OF THE CURRENTLY SCHEDULED NEGOTIATION CONFERENCE A WRITTEN REQUEST FOR A COURT HEARING;

- (s) That, if the obligor has APA-PETITIONER OR APA-RESPONDENT HAS any questions, the obligor HE OR SHE should telephone or visit the delegate child support enforcement unit;
- (t) That the obligor has APA-PETITIONER OR APA-RESPONDENT HAS the right to consult an attorney and the right to be represented by an attorney at the negotiation conference; and
- **SECTION 6.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26-13.5-104, **amend** (1) introductory portion and (3); and **add** (4), (5), and (6) as follows:
- **26-13.5-104. Service of notice of financial responsibility.** (1) The delegate child support enforcement unit shall serve a notice of financial responsibility on the <del>obligor not less than ten</del> APA-RESPONDENT AT LEAST FOURTEEN days prior to the date stated in the notice for the negotiation conference:
- (3) If process has been served pursuant to this section, no additional service of process shall be IS NOT necessary if the case is referred to court for further ACTION OR review.
- (4) An APA-respondent may waive service by signing a waiver of service of process and thereby waives the fourteen-day notice period required by subsection (1) of this section.
- (5) Service of process on the APA-petitioner is not required. The APA-petitioner voluntarily submits himself or herself to the jurisdiction of the delegate child support enforcement unit and the court in connection with any APA case.
- (6) A copy of the notice of financial responsibility must be provided to the APA-petitioner by first-class mail, hand delivery, or electronic transmission if agreed to by the APA-petitioner, at least fourteen days prior to the date of the negotiation conference. The APA-petitioner may waive the right to this fourteen-day notice period.
- **SECTION 7.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26-13.5-105, **amend** (1) introductory portion, (2), and (3) as follows:
- **26-13.5-105.** Negotiation conference issuance of order of financial responsibility filing of order with district court. (1) Every obligor APA-RESPONDENT who has been served with a notice of financial responsibility pursuant to section 26-13.5-104 shall appear at the time and location stated in the notice for a negotiation conference or shall reschedule a negotiation conference prior to the date and time stated in the notice. The negotiation conference shall MUST be scheduled not more than thirty THIRTY-FIVE days after the date of the issuance of the notice of financial responsibility. A negotiation conference shall not

MAY be rescheduled more than once and shall not be rescheduled for a date more than ten days after the date and time stated in the notice without BY A REQUEST FOR A STANDARD CONTINUANCE BY THE APA-PETITIONER OR APA-RESPONDENT. A STANDARD CONTINUANCE MUST NOT BE MORE THAN SEVEN DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF THE CURRENTLY SCHEDULED NEGOTIATION CONFERENCE. THE NEGOTIATION CONFERENCE MAY ALSO BE CONTINUED FOR good cause as defined in rules and regulations promulgated pursuant to section 26-13.5-113. If a negotiation conference is continued, the obligor shall APA-PETITIONER AND APA-RESPONDENT MUST be notified of such continuance by first-class mail, or by hand delivery, or ELECTRONIC MEANS IF AGREED TO BY BOTH PARTIES. If a stipulation is agreed upon at the negotiation conference as to the obligor's duty of support, the delegate child support enforcement unit shall issue an administrative order of financial responsibility setting forth the following:

- (2) A copy of the administrative order of financial responsibility issued pursuant to subsection (1) of this section, along with proof of service, shall be filed with the clerk of the district court in the county in which the notice of financial responsibility was issued or in the district court where an action relating to support is pending or an order exists but is silent on the issue of child support. The clerk shall stamp the date of receipt of the copy of the order and shall assign the order a case number. The order of financial responsibility shall have HAS all the force, effect, and remedies of an order of the court, including, but not limited to, wage assignments issued prior to July 1, 1996, or income assignments issued thereafter or contempt of court. Execution may be issued on the order in the same manner and with the same effect as if it were an order of the court. In order to enforce a judgment based on an order issued pursuant to this article ARTICLE 13.5, the judgment creditor shall file with the court a verified entry of judgment specifying the period of time that the judgment covers and the total amount of the judgment for that period. Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection (2), no A court order for judgment nor OR verified entry of judgment shall be is not required in order for the county and state DELEGATE child support enforcement units to certify past-due amounts of child support to the internal revenue service or state department of revenue for purposes of intercepting a federal or state tax refund.
- (3) (a) If no a stipulation is not agreed upon at the negotiation conference because the obligor APA-petitioner or APA-respondent contests the issue of paternity, the delegate child support enforcement unit shall issue an order for genetic testing if paternity has not already been established by a court or administrative order or determined pursuant to the laws of another state and continue the negotiation conference to allow for the receipt of the genetic testing results. The delegate child support enforcement unit shall pay the costs of the genetic testing and may recover any testing costs from the presumed or alleged father if paternity is established. If paternity has already been established or determined, an APA temporary order must be established without conducting genetic testing.
- (b) If no A stipulation is NOT agreed upon at the continued negotiation conference AND GENETIC TESTING IS REQUIRED and the evidence relating to paternity does not meet the requirements set forth in section 13-25-126 (1)(g), C.R.S., the delegate child support enforcement unit may dismiss the action or take such other appropriate action as allowed by law.

- (c) If no A stipulation is NOT agreed upon at the negotiation conference and paternity is not an issue, or, if paternity is an issue and either the evidence relating to paternity meets the requirements set forth in section 13-25-126 (1)(g), C.R.S., or parentage has been previously determined by another state, the delegate child support enforcement unit shall:
- (I) Issue temporary orders establishing current child support, arrears, foster care maintenance, medical support, and reasonable support for a time period prior to the entry of the order for support; and shall
- (II) File the notice of financial responsibility and proof of service with the clerk of the district court in the county in which the notice of financial responsibility was issued: and shall
  - (III) Request the court to set a hearing for the matter.
- (d) Notwithstanding any rules of the Colorado rules of civil procedure, a complaint is not required in order to initiate a court action pursuant to this subsection (3). The court shall inform the delegate child support enforcement unit of the date and location of the hearing and the court or the delegate child support enforcement unit shall send a notice to the obligor APA-PETITIONER AND APA-RESPONDENT informing the obligor EACH PARTY of the date and location of the hearing. In order to meet federal requirements of expedited process for child support enforcement, the court shall hold a hearing and decide only the issue of child support within ninety days after receipt of notice, as defined in section 26-13.5-102 (13), or within six months after receipt of notice, as defined in section 26-13.5-102 (13), if the obligor APA-PETITIONER OR APA-RESPONDENT is contesting the issue of paternity. If the obligor raises issues relating to the allocation of parental responsibilities, decision-making responsibility, or parenting time and the court has jurisdiction to hear such matters, the court shall set a separate hearing for those issues after entry of the order of support. In any action, including an action for paternity, no additional service beyond that originally required pursuant to section 26-13.5-104 shall be IS NOT required if no A stipulation is NOT reached at the negotiation conference and the court is requested to set a hearing in the matter.

## **SECTION 8.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend** 26-13.5-106 as follows:

- 26-13.5-106. Default issuance of order of default filing of order with district court rules. (1) (a) If an obligor APA-RESPONDENT fails to appear for a CURRENTLY SCHEDULED negotiation conference, as scheduled in the notice of financial responsibility, and fails to reschedule a negotiation conference prior to the date and time stated in the notice of financial responsibility, the delegate child support enforcement unit shall issue an order of default in accordance with the notice of financial responsibility. If an obligor fails to appear for a rescheduled negotiation conference, the delegate child support enforcement unit shall issue an order of default in accordance with the notice of financial responsibility.
- (b) In an action to establish paternity and financial responsibility, the delegate child support enforcement unit shall issue an order of default establishing paternity and financial responsibility in accordance with the notice of financial responsibility if:

- (I) The obligor APA-RESPONDENT fails to appear for the initial negotiation conference as scheduled in the notice of financial responsibility and fails to reschedule a negotiation conference prior to the date and time stated in the notice of financial responsibility; or
- (II) The obligor APA-RESPONDENT fails to take a genetic test or fails to appear for an appointment to take a genetic test without good cause; or
- (III) The results of the genetic test indicate a ninety-seven percent or greater probability that the alleged father is the father of the child, and the obligor APA-RESPONDENT fails to appear for the negotiation conference as scheduled in the notice of financial responsibility and fails to reschedule a negotiation conference prior to the date and time stated in the notice of financial responsibility.
- (b.5) The state board shall promulgate rules defining what constitutes good cause for failure to appear at a negotiation conference.
- (c) Such order of default shall be approved by the court and shall The COURT SHALL APPROVE THE ORDER OF DEFAULT, WHICH MUST include the following:
- (I) The amount of the monthly support obligation and instructions on the manner in which it shall MUST be paid;
- (II) The amount of child support debt due and owing to the state department and instructions on the manner in which it shall MUST be paid;
- (III) The amount of arrearages due and owing and instructions on the manner in which it shall MUST be paid;
- (IV) The name of the <del>custodian of the child</del> CHILD'S CUSTODIAN and the name, birth date, and social security number of the child for whom support is being sought;
  - (V) The information required by section 14-14-111.5 (2)(f)(II); C.R.S.;
- (VI) In a default order establishing paternity, a statement that the obligor has been determined to be the <del>natural</del> parent of the child;
- (VII) Such other information set forth in rules <del>and regulations</del> promulgated pursuant to section 26-13.5-113.
- (d) Such The order for default may direct the obligor to pay for support of the child, in an amount as may be determined by the court or delegate child support enforcement unit to be reasonable under the circumstances, for a time period prior to the entry of the order establishing paternity.
  - (e) TO APPROVE THE DEFAULT ORDER, THE COURT SHALL CONFIRM THAT:
- (I) The default order and all other documents required to be filed with the court pursuant to this section were in fact filed with the court; and

- (II) Notice was served on the APA-respondent or a waiver of service was executed by the APA-respondent pursuant to section 26-13.5-104.
  - (f) IN APPROVING A DEFAULT ORDER, THE COURT SHALL NOT:
- (I) Recalculate the amount of any child support obligation contained in the APA order;
  - (II) SCHEDULE OR CONDUCT A COURT HEARING; OR
  - (III) REQUIRE THE FILING OF ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS WITH THE COURT.
- (g) (I) If the court has not approved or denied approval of the default order within thirty-six days after filing with the court, the delegate child support enforcement unit shall notify the court that the deadline for approval or denial is in seven days on the forty-second day.
- (II) THE COURT MAY CONDUCT A JUDICIAL REVIEW OF THE ORDER PURSUANT TO SECTION 26-13.5-107.
- (2) A copy of any <del>order of</del> default ORDER issued pursuant to subsection (1) of this section, along with proof of service, and, in the case of a default order establishing paternity and financial responsibility under paragraph (b) of subsection (1) PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1)(b) of this section, the obligee's APA-PETITIONER'S verified affidavit regarding paternity and the genetic test results, if any, shall be filed with the clerk of the district court in the county in which the notice of financial responsibility was issued or in the district court where an action relating to child support is pending or an order exists but is silent on the issue of child support WITH THE COURT. BEFORE FILING WITH THE COURT, A SUPERVISOR, ADMINISTRATOR, ATTORNEY, OR DIRECTOR OF A COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN OR SOCIAL SERVICES SHALL REVIEW THE ORDER AND OTHER DOCUMENTS. The clerk shall stamp the date of receipt of the copy of the order of default ORDER and shall assign the order a case number. The order of default shall have ORDER HAS all the force, effect, and remedies of an order of the court, including, but not limited to, wage assignments issued prior to July 1, 1996, or income assignments issued thereafter or contempt of court. Execution may be issued on the order in the same manner and with the same effect as if it were an order of the court. In order to enforce a judgment based on an order issued pursuant to this article ARTICLE 13.5, the judgment creditor shall file with the court a verified entry of judgment specifying the period of time that the judgment covers and the total amount of the judgment for that period. Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection (2), no A court order for judgment nor OR verified entry of judgment shall be IS NOT required in order for the county and state child support enforcement units to certify past-due amounts of child support to the internal revenue service or state department of revenue for purposes of intercepting a federal or state tax refund.

**SECTION 9.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend** 26-13.5-107 as follows:

**26-13.5-107. Orders - duration - effect of court determinations.** (1) A copy of any order of financial responsibility or of any <del>order of</del> default ORDER or of any temporary order of financial responsibility issued by the delegate child support

enforcement unit shall MUST be sent by such unit by first-class mail to the obligor APA-PETITIONER AND APA-RESPONDENT or his OR HER attorney of record and to the custodian of the child.

- (2) Any order of financial responsibility, any DEFAULT order, of default, and any temporary order of financial responsibility shall MUST continue notwithstanding the fact that UNTIL MODIFIED BY ADMINISTRATIVE OR COURT ORDER, EVEN IF the child is no longer receiving benefits under the programs listed in section 26-13-102.5 (2)(a), unless the child is emancipated or is otherwise no longer entitled to support. Any order of financial responsibility, any order of default, and any temporary order of financial responsibility shall continue until modified by administrative order or court order, or by emancipation of the child. In the event that the order of financial responsibility, DEFAULT order, of default, or temporary order of financial responsibility is entered in a case at a time when there is a court action on the same case, the court may credit a portion of a monthly amount paid under the administrative process order towards future payments due in the court case only if the order in the court case is established at a lower amount than the administrative process order and only to the extent of the difference between the amount of the court order and the amount of the administrative process order.
- (3) Nothing contained in this article shall deprive ARTICLE 13.5 DEPRIVES a court of competent jurisdiction from determining the duty of support of an obligor against whom an administrative order is issued pursuant to this article ARTICLE 13.5. Such a determination by the court shall supersede SUPERSEDES the administrative order as to support payments due subsequent to the entry of the order by the court but shall DOES not affect any arrearage which may have accrued under the administrative order.
- (4) Any party to an APA order may file a request for relief from an APA judgment or order. The request must be in writing and filed with the court after the APA order becomes effective. The court may not conduct a review of a pending APA order. The review must be pursuant to C.R.C.P. 60.

**SECTION 10.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend** 26-13.5-110 as follows:

- **26-13.5-110. Paternity establishment filing of order with court.** (1) The delegate child support enforcement unit may issue an order establishing paternity of and financial responsibility for a child in the course of a support proceeding under this article when both parents sign sworn statements PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE 13.5 WHEN A PARENT SIGNS A STATEMENT that the paternity of the child for whom support is sought has not been legally established and that the parents are the natural LEGAL parents of the child and if neither parent is contesting the issue of paternity or may issue an A DEFAULT order of default establishing paternity and financial responsibility in accordance with section 26-13.5-106. Prior to issuing an order under PURSUANT TO this section, the delegate child support enforcement unit shall advise both parents in writing as prescribed by rule and regulation promulgated pursuant to section 26-13.5-113 of their legal rights concerning the determination of paternity.
  - (2) A copy of the order establishing paternity and financial responsibility and the

sworn statements of the parents STATEMENT OF THE PARENT and, in the case of a default order establishing paternity and financial responsibility, the obligee's APA-PETITIONER'S verified affidavit regarding paternity and the genetic test results, if any, shall MUST be filed with the clerk of the district court in the county in which the notice of financial responsibility was issued or as otherwise provided in accordance with the provisions of section 26-13.5-105 (2). The order establishing paternity and financial responsibility shall have HAS all the force, effect, and remedies of an order of the district court, and the order may be executed upon and enforced in the same manner as set forth in section 26-13.5-105 (2) AN ORDER OF THE COURT.

- (3) If the order establishing paternity is at variance with the child's birth certificate, the delegate child support enforcement unit shall order that a new birth certificate be issued under PURSUANT TO section 19-4-124. C.R.S.
- (4) Service of process to establish paternity and financial responsibility may be made under this article by Pursuant to this article 13.5 by any method of Service, including certified mail, as specified in section 26-13.5-104. or by any of the other methods of service specified in said section.

**SECTION 11.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 26-13.5-110.5 as follows:

- 26-13.5-110.5. Filing genetic testing results with court no administrative process action order. (1) Whenever genetic testing has been conducted pursuant to section 26-13.5-105 and the results show a less than ninety-seven percent probability of parentage, and the delegate child support enforcement unit issues a notice or order of dismissal of the APA case, the genetic testing results must be filed with the clerk of the district court in the county in which the notice of financial responsibility was issued, when there is a court action relating to child support pending, or where an order exists but is silent on the issue of child support.
- (2) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISIONS OF THIS ARTICLE 13.5 TO THE CONTRARY, THE COURT HAS JURISDICTION TO RECEIVE AN OBJECTION TO GENETIC TEST RESULTS AND TO TAKE ANY OTHER APPROPRIATE ACTION RELATING TO SUCH TEST RESULTS.
- **SECTION 12.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26-13.5-112, **amend** (1), (1.5), (1.7)(b), and (1.9) as follows:
- **26-13.5-112. Modification of an order.** (1) At any time after the entry of an order of financial responsibility or an order of default <del>under this article</del> PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE 13.5, in order to add, alter, or delete any provisions to such an order, the delegate child support enforcement unit may issue a notice of financial responsibility MODIFICATION to the obligor and obligee advising the obligor and obligee of the possible modification of the existing administrative order issued pursuant to this <del>article</del> ARTICLE 13.5. The delegate child support enforcement unit shall serve the obligor and the obligee with a notice of financial responsibility MODIFICATION by first-class mail or by electronic means if mutually agreed upon. The obligor or the obligee may file a written request for modification of an

administrative order issued under this article PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE 13.5 with the delegate child support enforcement unit. If the delegate child support enforcement unit denies the request for modification based upon the failure to demonstrate a showing of changed circumstances required pursuant to section 14-10-122, C.R.S., the delegate child support enforcement unit shall advise the requesting party of the party's right to seek a modification pursuant to section 14-10-122. C.R.S.

- (1.5) (a) The review of the administrative order shall MUST be conducted on or before the thirtieth day after notice of review is sent to the parties. During the review, the determination of the monthly support obligation shall MUST be based on the child support guidelines set forth in section 14-10-115. C.R.S. The delegate child support enforcement unit may grant a continuance of the review for good cause. The continuance shall MUST be for a reasonable period of time to be determined by the delegate child support enforcement unit, not to exceed thirty days.
- (b) In order to obtain information necessary to conduct the review, the delegate child support enforcement unit is authorized, pursuant to sections 26-13.5-103 (1) and 26-13-121 (3)(d), to serve, by first-class mail, HAND DELIVERY, or by electronic means if mutually agreed upon, an administrative subpoena to any person, corporation, partnership, public employee retirement benefit plan, financial institution, labor union, or other entity to appear or for the production of records and financial documents.
- (c) An adjustment to the administrative order shall be is appropriate only if the standard set forth in section 14-10-122 (1)(b) C.R.S., is met.
- (1.7) (b) The obligor and obligee shall MUST be given fifteen days from AFTER the date of the post-review notice to challenge the review results. The grounds for the challenge shall be ARE limited to the issue of mathematical or factual error in the calculation of the monthly support obligation. The delegate child support enforcement unit may grant an extension of up to fifteen days to challenge the review results based upon a showing of good cause. Any challenge may be presented at the negotiation conference scheduled pursuant to section 26-13.5-103 SECTION 26-13.5-105 via first-class mail or via an electronic communication method.
- (1.9) (a) If the review indicates that a change to the monthly support obligation is appropriate and the review is not challenged or all challenges have been addressed, the delegate child support enforcement unit shall file the notice of financial responsibility, the order of financial responsibility accompanied by the guideline worksheet, and the supporting financial documentation with the court. When the order of financial responsibility is filed with the court, it shall be provided to the parties and shall contain an advisement that the parties have fifteen days from the date of filing to file a written objection to the order of financial responsibility with the court.
- (b) If the delegate child support enforcement unit has filed an order of financial responsibility modifying the monthly support obligation and an objection has not been received by the court within fifteen days after the order is filed with the court, the order of financial responsibility shall become final. If an objection is received

within the fifteen-day period, the court may affirm the order of financial responsibility as submitted, issue an order revising the monthly support obligation, or set the matter for a hearing. If a hearing is necessary, the court shall hold a hearing within forty-five days after the filing of the order of financial responsibility, and the court shall decide only the issues of child support and medical support. Any documentary evidence provided by the obligee or the obligor or by the delegate child support enforcement unit may be admitted into evidence by the court without the necessity of laying a foundation for its admissibility, and the court may determine the relative weight or credibility to give any such documentation.

- **SECTION 13.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 26-13.5-116, 26-13.5-117, 26-13.5-118, 26-13.5-119, 26-13.5-120, 26-13.5-121, 26-13.5-122, and 26-13.5-123 as follows:
- **26-13.5-116.** Attorney of record in administrative process action case. (1) If a party retains legal counsel to represent him or her in an APA case, a written notice of representation signed by both the party and his or her attorney must be received by the delegate child support enforcement unit. The notice of representation is not effective until delivered to the delegate child support enforcement unit.
- (2) If a party terminates legal representation, the party shall deliver written notice of such termination to the delegate child support enforcement unit. The termination is effective upon receipt of delivery.
- (3) EXCEPT FOR SERVICE OF THE NOTICE UPON THE APA-RESPONDENT, AN ATTORNEY OF RECORD MUST, ON BEHALF OF HIS OR HER CLIENT, RECEIVE A COPY OF ALL DOCUMENTS DELIVERED TO THE PARTIES IN AN APA CASE.
- **26-13.5-117.** Administrative process action case rights of the parties. (1) An APA case may be conducted if the obligee or the obligor is an applicant for child support services pursuant to article 13 of this title 26.
- (2) BOTH PARTIES HAVE THE RIGHT TO A ONE-TIME STANDARD CONTINUANCE NOT TO EXCEED SEVEN DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF THE CURRENTLY SCHEDULED NEGOTIATION CONFERENCE.
- (3) BOTH PARTIES HAVE THE RIGHT TO CONTEST PATERNITY OF A CHILD IF LEGAL PARENTAGE OF THAT CHILD HAS NOT ALREADY BEEN ESTABLISHED BY THE COURT OR BY ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER OR DETERMINED PURSUANT TO THE LAWS OF ANOTHER STATE.
- (4) BOTH PARTIES MAY ATTEND AND PARTICIPATE IN AN APA NEGOTIATION CONFERENCE CONDUCTED PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE 13.5.
- **26-13.5-118.** Exchange and delivery of evidence. (1) All documents that are used in calculating the child support guidelines worksheet and administrative order must be provided to the other party at the time of or prior to the date and time of the currently scheduled negotiation conference.

- (2) If nondisclosure of information has been requested by a party pursuant to section 14-5-312 or 26-13-102.8, the delegate child support enforcement unit shall not disclose information relating to the location of the requesting party or the dependent child. Unless otherwise provided by law, if a party has not requested nondisclosure of information, the delegate child support enforcement unit has no duty to redact other information contained in the document. The delegate child support enforcement unit shall be held harmless for the release of such information pursuant to this section.
- **26-13.5-119.** Request for court hearing transfer of jurisdiction. (1) At any time after effecting service of process pursuant to section 26-13.5-104, the delegate child support enforcement unit may refer the case to court by requesting a court hearing for the establishment or modification of child support without additional service of process when:
- (a) THE APA-RESPONDENT IS INCARCERATED AND DOES NOT PARTICIPATE IN A NEGOTIATION CONFERENCE OR SIGN A STIPULATED ORDER;
- (b) An alleged or presumed parent is excluded by genetic testing results pursuant to section 13-25-126;
  - (c) A PARENT RECEIVES AN ADOPTION SUBSIDY FOR A DEPENDENT CHILD; OR
  - (d) Any other reason set forth in rule.
- (2) An APA-respondent may opt out of the APA proceedings and a court hearing must be scheduled pursuant to this section if, prior to the date and time of the currently scheduled negotiation conference, the APA-respondent delivers to the delegate child support enforcement unit a written request for a court hearing.
- **26-13.5-120. Default order of modification.** (1) If both parties fail to attend the currently scheduled negotiation conference on modification of a stipulated order or modification is not agreed to by the parties, the delegate child support enforcement unit shall enter a default order of modification.
- (2) To approve the default order of modification, the court shall confirm that the default order and all other documents required to be filed with the court pursuant to section 26-13.5-112 were in fact filed with the court. Prior to filing with the court, a supervisor, administrator, attorney, or county director of human or social services shall review the default order and other documents.
  - (3) IN APPROVING A DEFAULT ORDER OF MODIFICATION, A COURT SHALL NOT:
- (a) RECALCULATE THE AMOUNT OF ANY CHILD SUPPORT OBLIGATION CONTAINED IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER;
  - (b) SCHEDULE OR CONDUCT A COURT HEARING; OR

- (c) REQUIRE THE FILING OF ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS WITH THE COURT.
- (4) (a) If the court has not approved or denied approval of the default order within thirty-six days after filing with the court, the delegate child support enforcement unit shall notify the court that the deadline for approval or denial is in seven days on the forty-second day.
- (b) The court may conduct a judicial review of the default order of modification pursuant to section 26-13.5-107.
- **26-13.5-121.** When administrative process action order is effective. (1) AN APA STIPULATED OR TEMPORARY ORDER OF ESTABLISHMENT OR AN APA STIPULATED ORDER OF MODIFICATION IS EFFECTIVE UPON FILING WITH THE CLERK OF COURT.
- (2) An APA default order of establishment or an APA default order of modification is effective upon approval by the court or by operation of law pursuant to section 26-13.5-106 or 26-13.5-120.
- **26-13.5-122.** Survivability of an administrative process action order applicability. (1) If an APA order is filed into a pending court case and that court case is subsequently dismissed, the APA order survives such dismissal and continues to be valid and enforceable unless the court specifically orders the dismissal of the APA order.
- (2) If an APA order contains a judgment establishing paternity, a judgment for child support debt pursuant to section 14-14-104, or for costs of collection as defined in section 26-13.5-102 (4), and the parents subsequently marry each other, such judgments survive the marriage and continue to be valid and enforceable.
- (3) This section applies even if only one parent is a party to the APA order and even if the APA order is for foster care placement fees.
- (4) If an APA order contains a judgment for retroactive support that is owed to a nonparent caretaker of a dependent child, such judgment survives pursuant to this section.
- (5) IF THE APA ORDER ESTABLISHES A MONTHLY SUPPORT OBLIGATION THAT IS OR HAS BEEN ASSIGNED TO THE COUNTY, STATE, OR OTHER JURISDICTION, THAT PORTION OF THE ORDER FOR A MONTHLY SUPPORT OBLIGATION DURING THE PERIOD OF ASSIGNMENT SURVIVES PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION.
- **26-13.5-123.** Where administrative process action order filed electronic filing of order data custodian of the record applicability. (1) A STIPULATED, TEMPORARY, OR DEFAULT ORDER MUST BE FILED WITH THE CLERK OF THE DISTRICT COURT IN THE COUNTY IN WHICH THE NOTICE OF FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY WAS ISSUED, OR IN THE DISTRICT COURT WHERE AN ACTION RELATING TO SUPPORT IS PENDING OR WHERE AN ORDER EXISTS BUT IS SILENT ON THE ISSUE OF CHILD SUPPORT.

- (2) A STIPULATED OR DEFAULT ORDER OF MODIFICATION MUST BE FILED IN THE COUNTY AND CASE WHERE THE INITIAL APA ORDER WAS FILED.
- (3) IN APPROPRIATE CASES, THE DELEGATE CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT UNIT SHALL TRANSMIT DATA ELEMENTS OF THE ORDER, RETURN OF SERVICE OF PROCESS, AND OTHER APA DOCUMENTS TO THE CLERK OF THE COURT IN THE COUNTY WHERE THE NOTICE OF FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY WAS ISSUED IN LIEU OF FILING THE ORDER AND OTHER DOCUMENTS WITH THE COURT.
- (4) When the original order is not filed with the court, the delegate child support enforcement unit shall be the custodian of the record until the order is filed with the court.
  - (5) This section applies to both establishment and modification cases.
- **SECTION 14. Appropriation.** For the 2018-19 state fiscal year, \$122,996 is appropriated to the department of human services for use by the office of self sufficiency. This appropriation is from the child support insurance lien fund created in section 26-13-122.7 (9), C.R.S. To implement this act, the office of self sufficiency may use this appropriation for child support enforcement.
- SECTION 15. Act subject to petition effective date. Sections 4 through 13 of this act take effect July 1, 2019, and the remainder of this act takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August 8, 2018, if adjournment sine die is on May 9, 2018); except that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in November 2018 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor; except that sections 4 through 13 of this act take effect July 1, 2019.

Approved: June 6, 2018